

AMALGAM™



THE EXCITING

X-FACTOR™

APPROVED
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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

#1
JUNE '87

THE
TRIUMPH
OF
BROTHER
BROOD!



DIRECT EDITION



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INEATH THE ISLAND NATION OF ZENOSHA, IN THE FETID UNDERGROUND CAVERNS THAT ARE HOME TO THE CULT OF BROOD, TWO WARRIORS DEFY THE HORRIFYING UNDEATH THREATENING THEM.

AS A PRINCESS-WARRIOR ON HER SUB-ATOMIC HOMEWORLD, TAMOJORAN, SHATTERSTARFIRE HAS KNOWN ALL MANNER OF TERRORS...

...SO THE SIGHT OF A ROILING SWARM OF BROODLINGS INTENT ON INFESTING HER LIVING BODY WITH THEIR PARASITIC YOUNG CAUSES HER BRAVE HEART TO BEAT ONLY SLIGHTLY FASTER...

...SINCE THEIR RAGE IS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE WRATH SHE NOW FACES FROM NILES CABLE, THE FUTURE-BORN LEADER OF THE X-PATROL.

BLAST YOU, PRINCESS! IF WE SURVIVE THIS ONSLAUGHT, I DEARLY HOPE YOU WILL LEARN TO CURB YOUR IMPETUOUS CRUSADES!

BUT YOU WERE NOT THERE, NILES --

AMALGAM PRESENTS: THE DEADLIEST ADVENTURE OF THE DOOMED FORCE KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS: THE TITANIC

X-PATROL IN THE CURSE OF BROTHER BROOD!

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MARK GRUENWALD
WHOSE AMALGAMINATION HELPED BRING THIS WORLD TO LIFE.

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IF YOU
HAD SEEN
WHAT I SAW --
THAT POOR GIRL
TERRA-X
CAPTURED AND
CHANGED INTO
ROCKS AND
DUST--!

SHE'S
A **MUTANT!**
THAT'S HER
POWER!



THIS IS WHAT
COMES OF FAILING
TO STOP AND
THINK BEFORE
ACTING!

THE
GIRL PROBABLY
USED HER POWER
TO JOIN WITH THE
EARTH AND ESCAPE!
YOU *RUSHED* IN HERE
TO SAVE SOMEONE
WHO WAS IN *NO*
DANGER!



AND NOW YOU
FEAR I HAVE
KILLED US
BOTH?

NO!
I REFUSE TO
SURRENDER!

WE
CAN SURVIVE
THESE CREATURES,
JUST AS WE DID **AMANDA**
DEATHBIRD'S IMPERIAL
SUICIDE SQUAD!



LISTEN
TO ME FOR
ONCE, **SHATTER-
STARFIRE!** THIS IS
NOT A WINNABLE
SITUATION!



BRAVERY AND
FOOLISHNESS
ARE ONLY A STEP
REMOVED...



...THE
TRICK IS
KNOWING
WHERE TO
STEP.

LOOK
BEYOND THE
MOMENT AND TO
THE FUTURE. IF WE
DIE, THE *DREAM* DIES
WITH US, SO WE
MUTANTS MUST HELP
EACH OTHER
SURVIVE!

BUT,
NILES--!



DON'T ARGUE --
NONE OF MY
X-PATROL WILL FALL
WHILE I STILL...
STAND.

NOW
GO -- AND RETURN
QUICKLY WITH THE
OTHERS!



I WILL
RETURN,
NILES, EITHER
TO RESCUE
YOU...

...OR
AVENGE
YOU.

THE BROOD.



THEY HAVE NO MINDS TO TOUCH
WITH HIS TELEPATHY, THEIR MEAGER
BRAINPOWER DEVOTED ENTIRELY
TO WILL...



...HIS WILL.

WHAT
GOOD FORTUNE.
THE INFAMOUS
NILES CABLE
BROUGHT LOW.
WELL DONE MY
BROODLINGS.

ONCE HE
IS UNDER OUR
INFLUENCE, ZENOSHA
WILL QUICKLY
FALL... AS WILL
THE WORLD!

IT IS
THE WILL OF
ALL -- THAT ALL
BE ONE...
BROOD.

PREPARE
HIM FOR THE
BROOD
PIT!

ONCE HE WAS JUST THE
CHARISMATIC LEADER OF
THE PARASITIC CULT OF
BLOOD, BUT THIS UNHOLY
MAN FOUND TRUE POWER
BY ALLOWING HIMSELF TO
BE TAKEN BY THE ALIEN
BROOD QUEEN. NOW HE IS...

BROTHER
BROOD!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU LEFT HIM TO THE BROOD?

I HAD NO CHOICE -- HIS TELEKINETICS ARE STRONGER THAN MY FLIGHT!

AND I COULD NOT DISOBEY HIS ORDERS!

WHY NOT? YOU DID TO GO THERE!

IF YOU'VE KILLED HIM, KORY --

NOW, JANET...

NILES ISN'T DAID, IS HE?

NO, PAIGE.

THESE CREATURES HAVE FANGS AND CLAWS, BUT NO WEAPON TO STOP HIS WARRIOR'S HEART.

NILES NEEDS OUR AID, AND WE MUST MOVE SWIFTLY AND FORCEFULLY!

IT SEEMS INCOMPREHENSIBLE THAT NILES SHOULD SUFFER SUCH BEASTLY INCARCERATION...

...THE BIG GUY'S REALLY DOWN?

YOU SAY THESE BROOD LIVE IN CAVES BENEATH ZENOSHA? BUT THAT MUTANT-HATING STATE ALLOWS NO ENTRY TO FOREIGNERS. HOW WILL WE --

QUIET!

LET'S ALL CONTROL OURSELVES.

THERE'S NO QUESTION WE'LL GO AFTER NILES, BUT WE NEED A PLAN TO GET IN AND OUT SAFELY SO WE DON'T JUST SACRIFICE OURSELVES AS WELL!

I LIKE A GOOD GAME OF CHANCE, BUT I NEVER WASTE A CHANCE TO MAKE THINGS GO MY WAY!



X-PATROL

JUST A YEAR AGO, NILES BROUGHT TOGETHER A BAND OF UNTRIED STRANGERS, BONDED ONLY BY THEIR SHARED MUTANT HERITAGE, A GENETIC DIFFERENCE THAT MAKES THEM MORE THAN JUST HUMAN. NOW THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY TO BECOMING HEROES OF LEGEND — OR HISTORY, FROM NILES' FUTURE PERSPECTIVE! THEY ARE:

**JANET VAN DYNE,
ELASTI-GIRL!**

LIFE-LOVING RICH GIRL WHOSE FAVORITE MUTANT ADVENTURE INTRODUCED HER TO NILES CABLE! WILL SHE LOSE HIM NOW?

**NAME UNKNOWN,
JERICHO!**

THE MYSTERY MAN WHO SHOWED UP ONE DAY ON THE ARM OF JANET VAN DYNE. DOES HE HOPE TO TAKE NILES' PLACE IN THE X-PATROL... AND HER HEART?

**PIOTR RASPUTIN,
FERRO-MAN!**

HIS IRON MASK HIDES A FACE NOT EVEN A MOTHER COULD LOVE. IF NILES IS GONE, HOW WILL HE FIND HIS MISSING TWIN?

**HANK LOGAN,
BEASTLING!**

EMERALD-HUED SHAPECHANGER, SCIENTIST, AND MAVEN OF POP CULTURE. IF NILES IS LOST, WILL THE X-PATROL DISBAND, SENDING THE MERRY MUTANT BACK TO THE COLD HALLS OF ACADEMY?

**PAIGE GUTHRIE,
DIAL-H-U-S-K-I!**

WITH THE SPIN OF HER AMAZING H-DIAL, PAIGE CHANGES SHAPE AND POWERS AS EASILY AS SHEDDING HER SKIN. WITHOUT NILES' GUIDANCE, WILL SHE BE ABLE TO DISCERN WHO THE REAL PAIGE IS?

**PRINCESS KORIAN'DRU,
SHATTERSTARFIRE!**

HER ENERGY BLASTS AND SWORD MAKE HER A FEARSOME FIGHTER. CAN ALL HER WAR-SHARPENED SKILL RETURN HER TO TAMO-JORAN IF NILES IS LOST?

BLAST-FIRE



ZENOSHA,
I SING OF THEE,
WARPED LAND OF
MISERY, SOON
MAY YOU
FALL...

PLEASE,
HANK!
SO
HERE'S THE
STRATEGY: GO
IN, GET NILES,
GET OUT.



WHY, HOW
PROFOUND.

JUST THE STRATEGY
I'D USE AGAINST
A MURDEROUS
PSYCHOTIC
DESPOT.
AND
NO MESSY
DETAILS TO
KEEP TRACK
OF.

WELL, WE DON'T
REALLY *KNOW*
MUCH ABOUT
THIS PLACE,
DO WE?

WE
KNOW WE
MUST NOT
BECOME CAPTIVES
OF THE
BROOD.



AND
WHAT DO
YOU KNOW OF
THE BROOD,
JERICHO?

WE DIDN'T
EVEN THINK
THEY EXISTED,
OURSELVES.
WHERE'D
Y'ALL GET SUCH
INFO?

THROUGH
BITTER
EXPERIENCE,
PAIGE.
THROUGH
STRYFE AND
DESPAYRE...
WHAT
MATTERS MOST
IS THAT WE
STAY BROOD-
FREE...



WHEN... IF BROOD
CONTROLS MUTANTS,
ALL THE WORLD...
WILL SUFFER.

I'VE
SEEN...
GUESSED
WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN.



POOR JERICHO...
ALL THIS DISTRUST
MUST BE HARD
ON HIM.

FUNNY HOW HE
JUST DROPPED INTO
MY WORLD OUT
OF NOWHERE...

...YET
I'D TRUST
HIM WITH
MY LIFE...

"...MUCH LIKE NILES.
NILES. WE'VE SURVIVED
SO MUCH TOGETHER...
I PRAY HE'S STILL
ALIVE."

GROAN
I'VE FAILED
THEM ALL.

YOU'VE
FAILED NO ONE,
NILES.

I MUST BE DYING, HE THINKS, AS A
GHOST FROM HIS DIMLY-REMEMBERED
PAST TAKES SHAPE.

SUDDENLY HE IS THERE AGAIN, THE FUTURE,
IN THAT PLACE WHERE THE ASHKANI KEEP
ALIVE THE ESSENCE OF LOST HEROES, THOSE
CUT DOWN BEFORE THEIR TIME, THOSE WHO
WOULD TRAIN AND TEACH HIM:

...BLACK ORCHID
THE UNKNOWN...

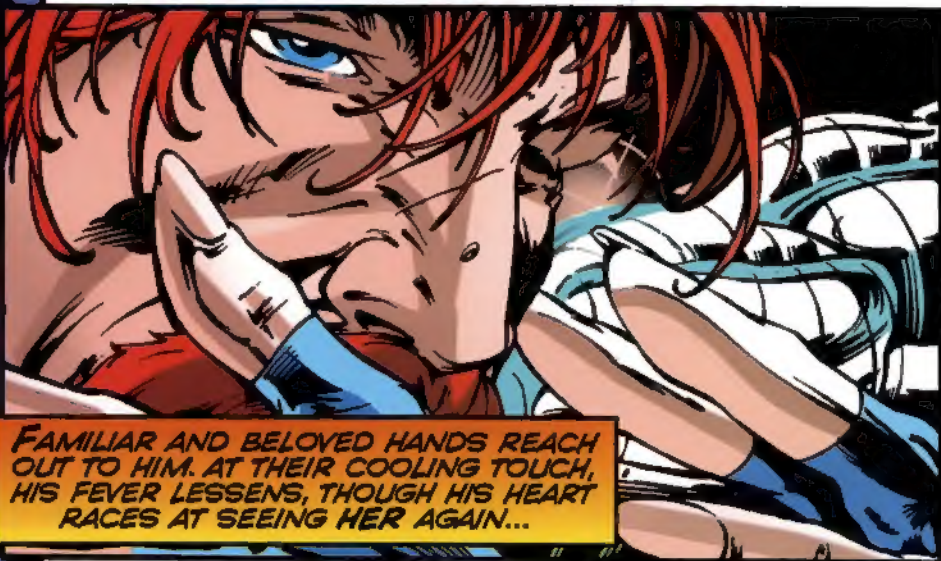
...THE MICROSTAR
MICRONAUTS...

...PREZ: MASTER
OF KUNG FU...

...THE SEA DEVIL
DINOSAURS...

...THE VIGILANTE
KID...

...AND COUNTLESS OTHER
QUIRKS OF CREATION
WHO HELPED SHAPE THE
WORLD HE KNEW.



FAMILIAR AND BELOVED HANDS REACH
OUT TO HIM. AT THEIR COOLING TOUCH,
HIS FEVER LESSENS, THOUGH HIS HEART
RACES AT SEEING HER AGAIN...



...RAVENIYA
THE HEALER!

WOULD
THAT I COULD
HEAL ALL YOUR
WOUNDS FROM WHERE
I AM, BUT IT IS
IMPOSSIBLE.

DO LET MY TOUCH
REMINDE YOU OF WHAT
YOU CARRY WITHIN YOU,
NILES. REMEMBER...



AS SHE SPEAKS, MEMORIES CANCELLED BY TIME BECOME REAL TO HIM ONCE MORE...

...DEADDEVIL,
THE MAN
WITHOUT LIFE...

...THE SILVER
TORNADO, VOID
ELEMENTAL...

...THE ATOMIC
BLACK KNIGHT,
SWORDSMAN
OF FUTURE AND
PAST...

...BUT MOST
IMPORTANTLY,
HER.

RAVENIYA THE
HEALER, HIS
LOST LOVE...

...AS SHE WAS BEFORE
SHE BECAME TRIJENSKOT
THE WARRIOR, AND DIED
IN HIS ARMS.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN
NOW? CAN THE X-PATROL
STOP BROTHER BROOD,
OR IS THE DARK
FUTURE WE KNEW A
CERTAINTY?

I'M NOT HERE TO
TAKE YOU, NILES, JUST
TO REMIND YOU THAT
YOU HAVE THE POWER
TO CURE YOURSELF
OF THE BROOD
IMPLANT --

-- YOU
GUARD INSIDE
YOU A LITTLE
PIECE OF MY
SOUL-SELF.

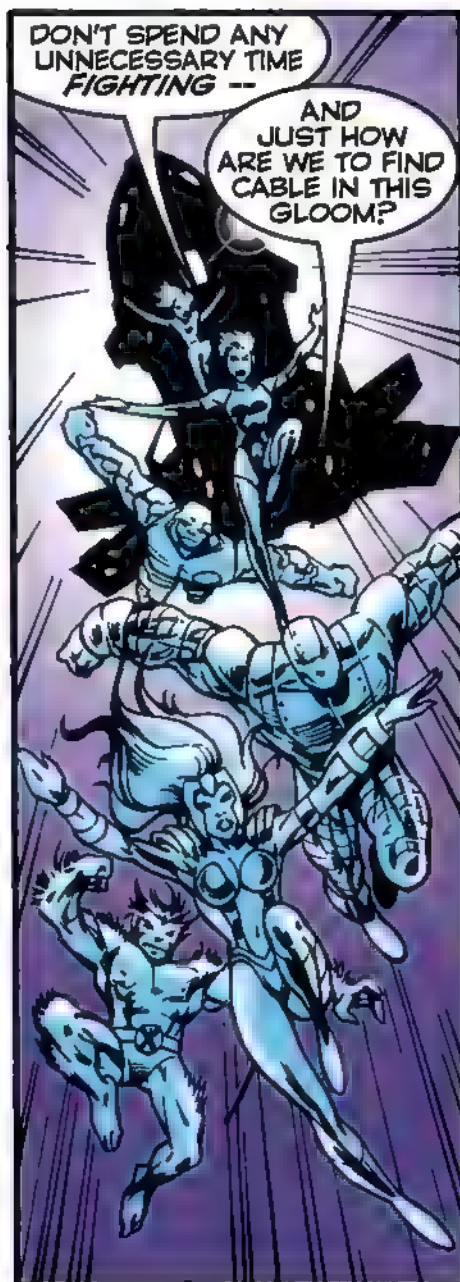
I'VE
THOUGHT OF
THAT, BUT IT'S NOT
THAT SIMPLE. IF I
RELEASE THE
FRAGMENT TO HEAL
MYSELF, I ALSO
LOSE MY GRIP ON
THE TECHNO-VIRUS
INFECTING ME.

BROOD
IMPLANT OR
LETHAL
NANOTECH -- I
DIE EITHER
WAY.

IT'S A
QUESTION OF
WHICH DOOM
HURTS MY
PATROL THE
LEAST...

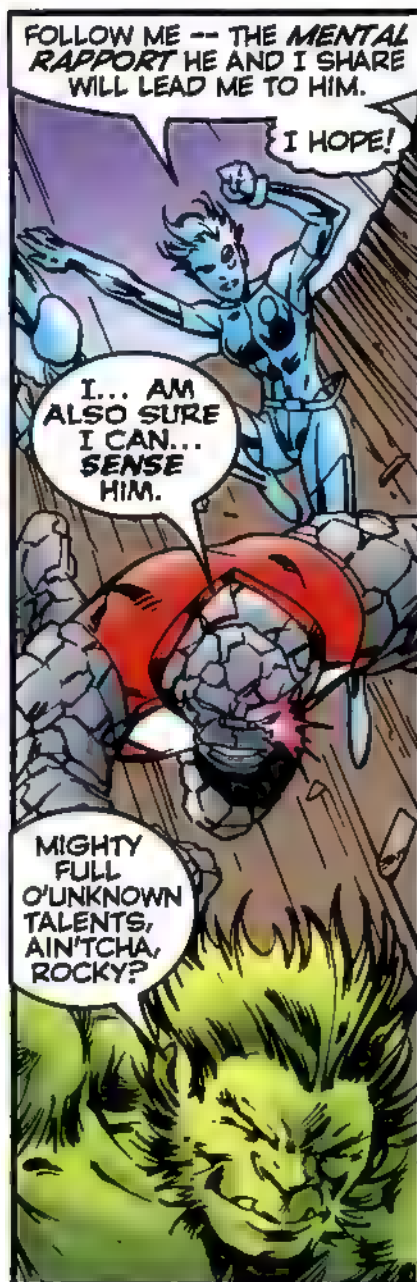
A PAINFUL DECISION, AND
ONE YOU ALONE
MUST MAKE.

CHOOSE
WELL, MY
LOVE...



DON'T SPEND ANY UNNECESSARY TIME FIGHTING --

AND JUST HOW ARE WE TO FIND CABLE IN THIS GLOOM?



FOLLOW ME -- THE MENTAL RAPPORT HE AND I SHARE WILL LEAD ME TO HIM.

I HOPE!

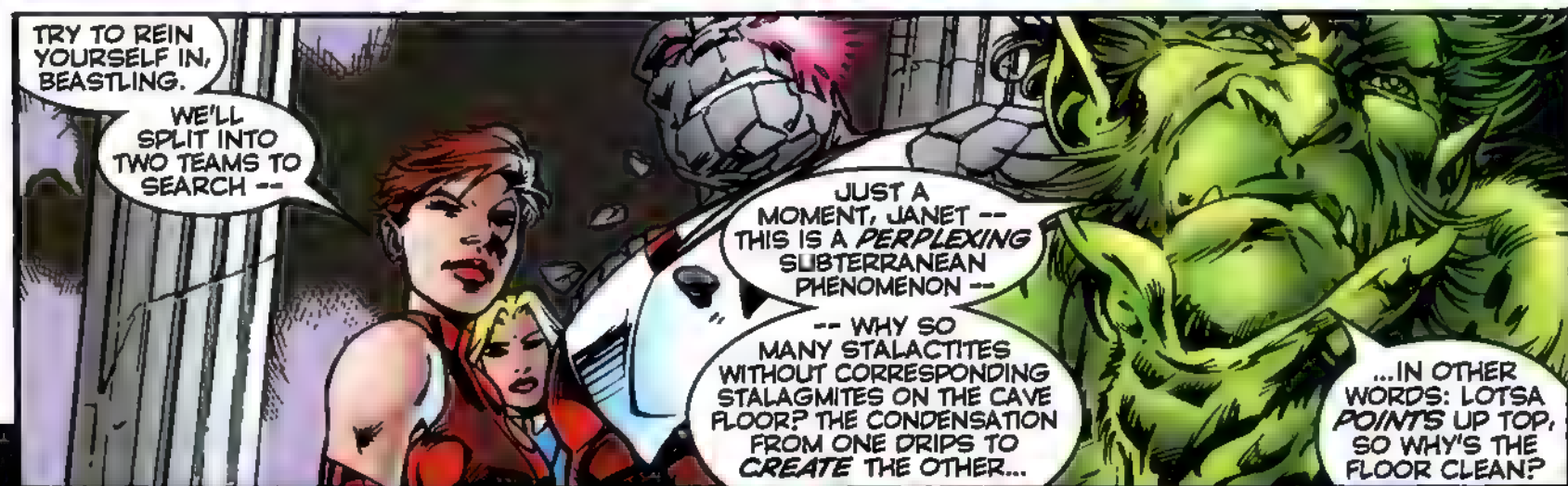
I... AM ALSO SURE I CAN... SENSE HIM.

MIGHTY FULL O'UNKNOWN TALENTS, AIN'TCHA, ROCKY?



EMPTY!? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE -- WHEN I LEFT, WE WERE HIP-DEEP IN BROODINGS!

Oh, MAMA! TO BE A BROOD DEEP NEAR THOSE HIPS...



TRY TO REIN YOURSELF IN, BEASTLING.

WE'LL SPLIT INTO TWO TEAMS TO SEARCH --

JUST A MOMENT, JANET -- THIS IS A PERPLEXING SUBTERRANEAN PHENOMENON --

-- WHY SO MANY STALACTITES WITHOUT CORRESPONDING STALAGMITES ON THE CAVE FLOOR? THE CONDENSATION FROM ONE DRIPS TO CREATE THE OTHER...

...IN OTHER WORDS: LOTSA POINTS UP TOP, SO WHY'S THE FLOOR CLEAN?

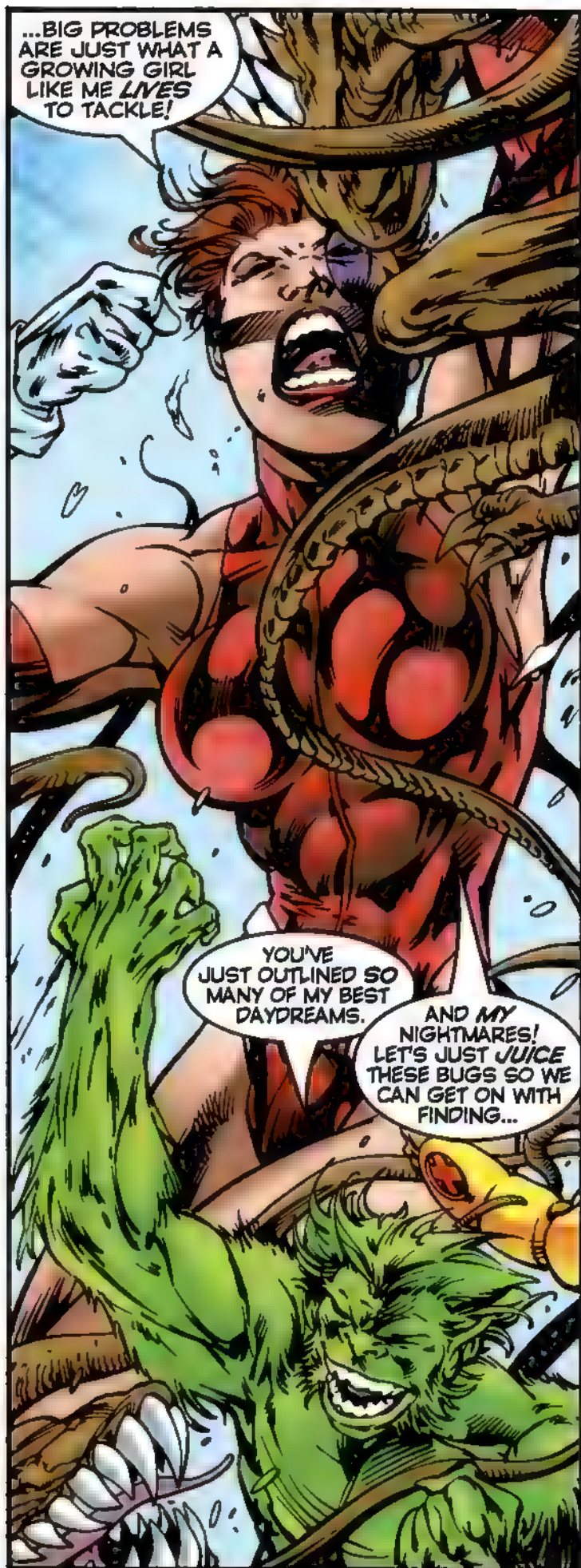


UNLESS THEY AREN'T STALACTITES!

BROOD!

THEY WILL TASTE MY BLADE!

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT A BIG PROBLEM...



...BIG PROBLEMS ARE JUST WHAT A GROWING GIRL LIKE ME LIVES TO TACKLE!

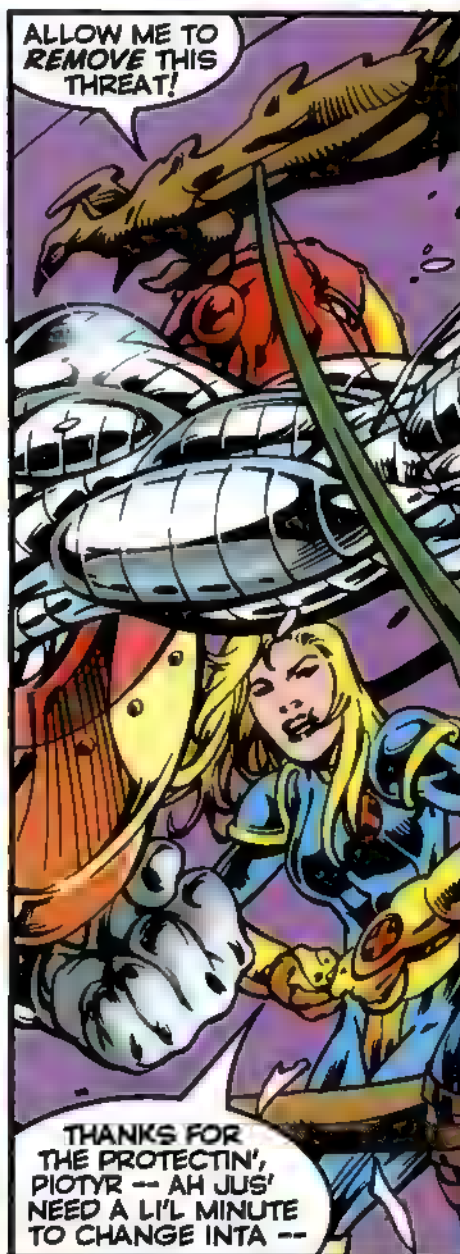
YOU'VE JUST OUTLINED SO MANY OF MY BEST DAYDREAMS.

AND MY NIGHTMARES! LET'S JUST JUICE THESE BUGS SO WE CAN GET ON WITH FINDING...



...NILES...

...HIS HOVERCHAIR...



ALLOW ME TO REMOVE THIS THREAT!

-- ARTEMISTY KNIGHT! THE BIONIC AMAZON ARCHER!

MY CYBER-DEMONIC ACCURACY WILL MAKE SHORT WORK OF THESE VERMIN!

THANKS FOR THE PROTECTIN', PIOTYR -- AH JUS' NEED A LI'L MINUTE TO CHANGE INTA --



I'M ALWAYS AMAZED BY THE PERSONALITY CHANGES THAT ACCOMPANY YOUR TRANSFORMATIONS, HUSK!

NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR WONDERING, MANLING!

NOW IS THE TIME FOR WAR!



YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THIS IS WHERE NILES IS, JANET?

HE'S GOT TO BE HERE. LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD --

Oh, I AM --



"-- IT'S BROTHER BROOD HIMSELF!"

WE SERVE THE GATHERING, THE ALL-IN-ONE, THE BINDING BLOOD THAT MAKES US ONE BROOD...



"AND THAT DIABOLICAL FIEND MUST SURELY BE GLOATING OVER HAVING CAPTURED A MUTANT!"

...NOW THE BROODPIT QUIVERS, READY TO BIRTH ONE WHO CARRIES NEW LIFE WITHIN --



-- NEW BLOOD FOR THE BROOD!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THIS CEREMONY --



-- BEFORE NILES IS IMPLANTED WITH ONE OF THOSE BLASTED BROOD!



ARISE, TERRA-X THE DESTROYER!

ARISE AND ATTACK THE INFIDELS WHO WOULD DESECRATE YOUR HOLY REBIRTH!

I LIVE TO SERVE, BROTHER BROOD...



IT'S NOT NILES! BUT I FELT --

Uh... HEY, TERRA.

WE'RE STILL BUDS, RIGHT?

NOT WHILE YOU REMAIN EMPTY!



IT'S THAT GIRL I SAW CAPTURED!

TERRA-X? SHE'S A TRAITOR!

SHE'S THE ONE WHO DELIVERED US INTO THE HANDS OF X-STROKE, THE ELIMINATOR!

HE NEARLY WIPEd US OUT!



AND NOW I WILL DELIVER YOU INTO THE HANDS OF THE BROOD, FERRO MAN!

HOW'S THAT FOR DÉJA VU?



THE SEQUEL
IS AS PAINFUL
AS THE
ORIGINAL.

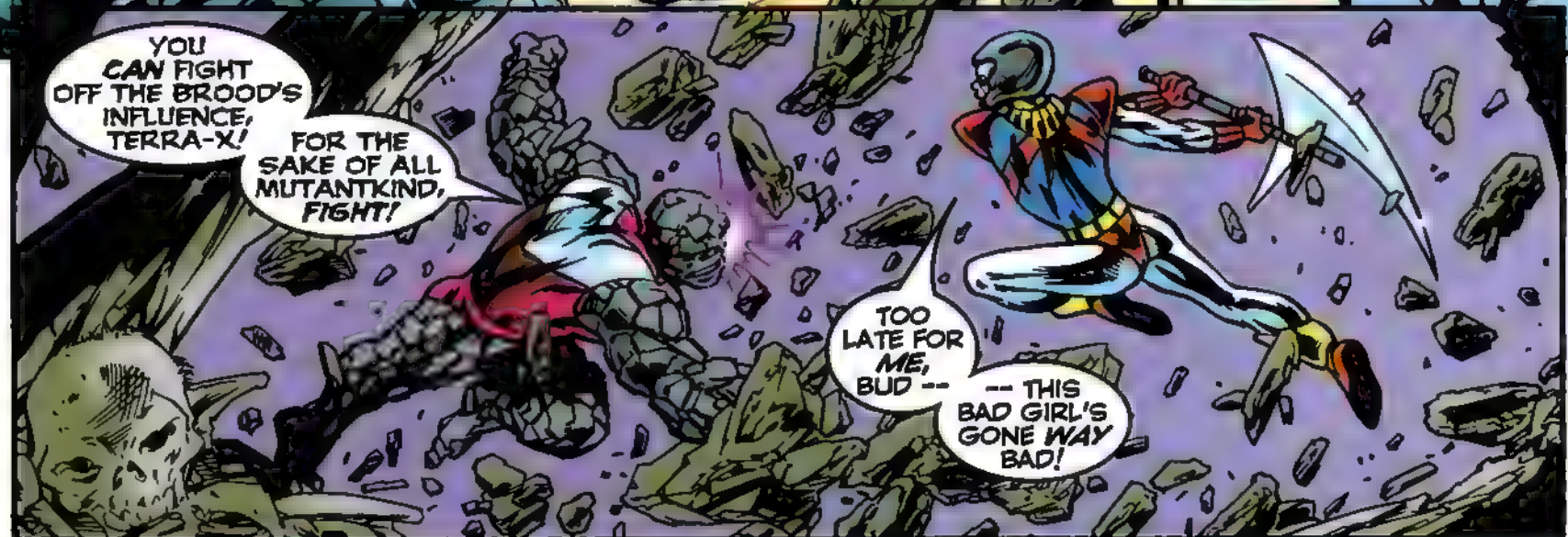
IZZAT
A JOKE,
RUSTY?

BETTER LEAVE
HUMOR TO THE
PROFESSIONALS.

SPEAKING OF,
LOOKS LIKE YOU
LOSERS...

...FOUND
SOME NEW
BLOOD.

YOU MY
REPLACEMENT,
UGLY?



YOU
CAN FIGHT
OFF THE BROOD'S
INFLUENCE,
TERRA-X!

FOR THE
SAKE OF ALL
MUTANTKIND,
FIGHT!

TOO
LATE FOR
ME,
BUD --

-- THIS
BAD GIRL'S
GONE WAY
BAD!



YOU CAN'T
TURN --

GYAAAAH!

BUT --
I DIDN'T...
WHAT...?



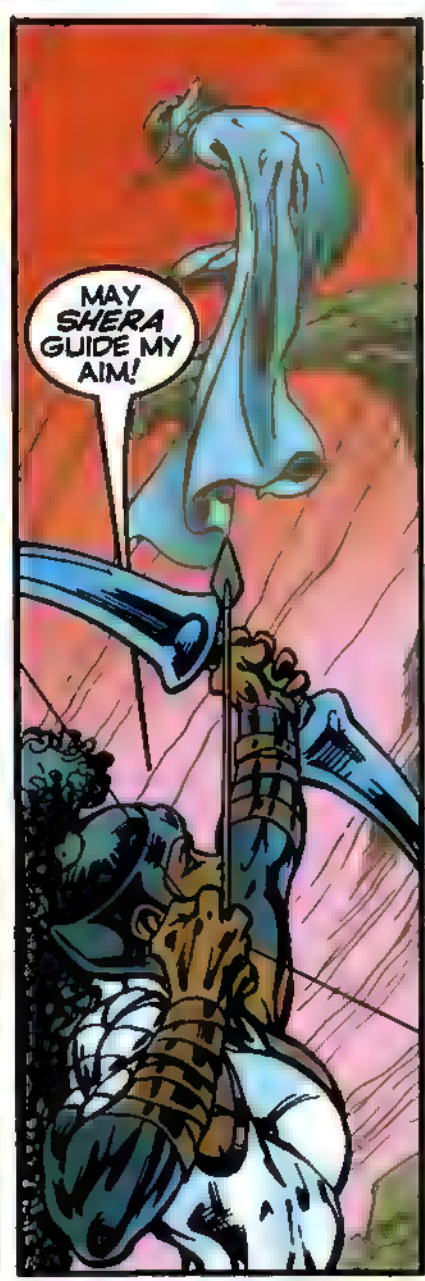
YOU MEAN
WHO.

I FIND
A LITTLE
FRIENDLY EAR
DAMAGE NEVER
FAILS TO
BRING 'EM
DOWN.

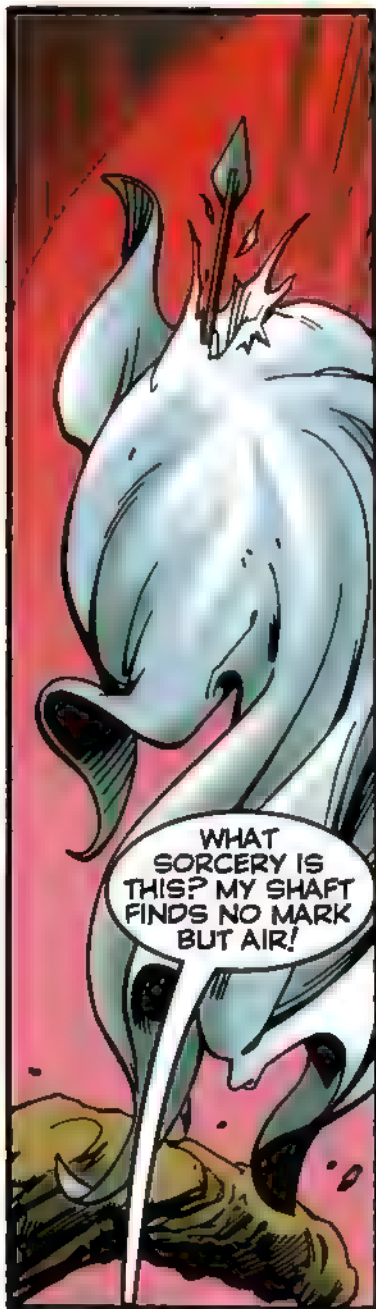


THE TRAITOR IS
DOWN, BUT WHAT
OF BROTHER
BROOD?

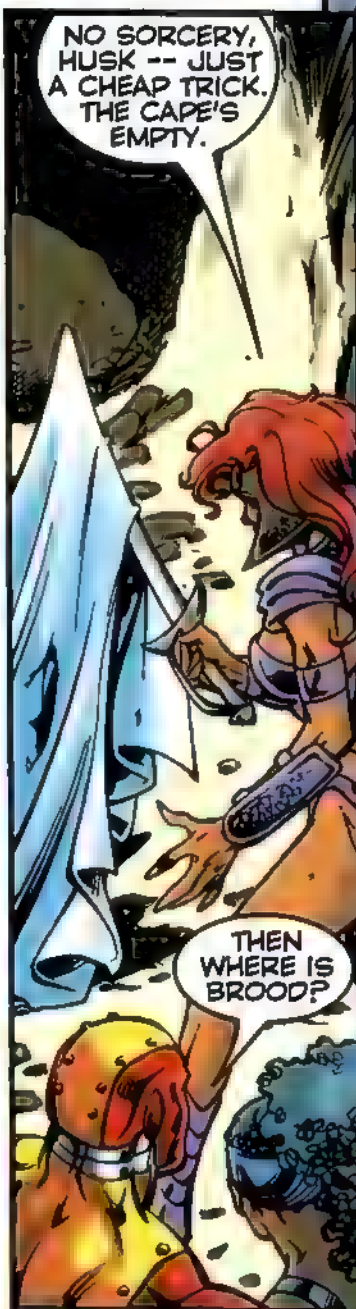
I SPY
HIS FOUL
VISAGE!



MAY
SHERA
GUIDE MY
AIM!



WHAT SORCERY IS THIS? MY SHAFT FINDS NO MARK BUT AIR!



NO SORCERY, HUSK -- JUST A CHEAP TRICK. THE CAPE'S EMPTY.

THEN WHERE IS BROOD?



BROOD IS EVERYWHERE! BROOD IS ALL!

HAVING CONVERTED ONE OF YOUR UNBELIEVING NUMBER, I COME TO DELIVER THE SAME GLORIOUS FATE TO EACH OF YOU!

THE GLORY WILL BE IN THE BATTLE JOINED TO KEEP YOU FROM THAT INFERNAL GOAL, DEMON!

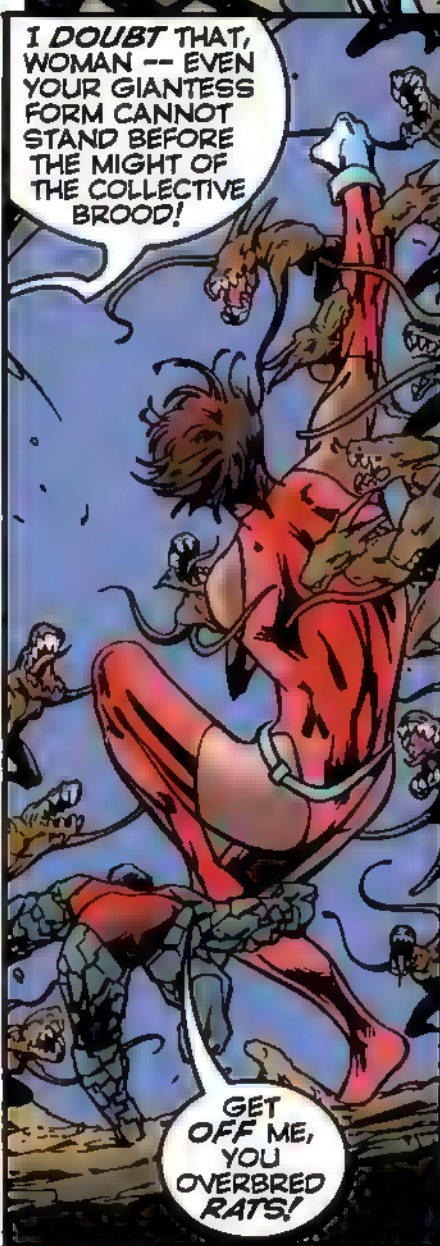
YOU UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE BROOD. YOU WILL ALL COME ONE BY ONE TO THE TRUTH!



YOU MONSTER!

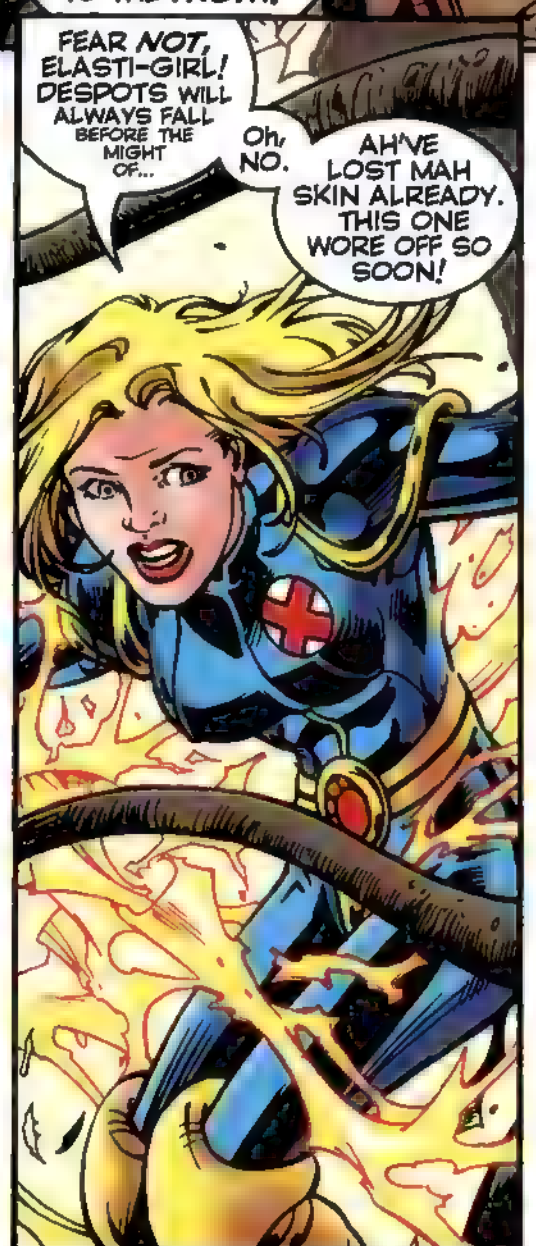
DON'T TAUNT ME WITH WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO NILES --

-- BRING HIM TO ME OR I'LL CRUSH YOU!



I DOUBT THAT, WOMAN -- EVEN YOUR GIANTESS FORM CANNOT STAND BEFORE THE MIGHT OF THE COLLECTIVE BROOD!

GET OFF ME, YOU OVERBRED RATS!



FEAR NOT, ELASTI-GIRL! DESPOTS WILL ALWAYS FALL BEFORE THE MIGHT OF...

Oh, NO.

AH'VE LOST MAH SKIN ALREADY. THIS ONE WORE OFF SO SOON!



SORRY
TO BE SUCH A
BURDEN, FERRO
MAN!

YOU
ARE ONE
HAPPILY
BORNE, HUSK.



SPEAKING
OF BEARING, I'D
SAY MR. METALHEAD'S
GETTING A BIT
FAMILIAR --

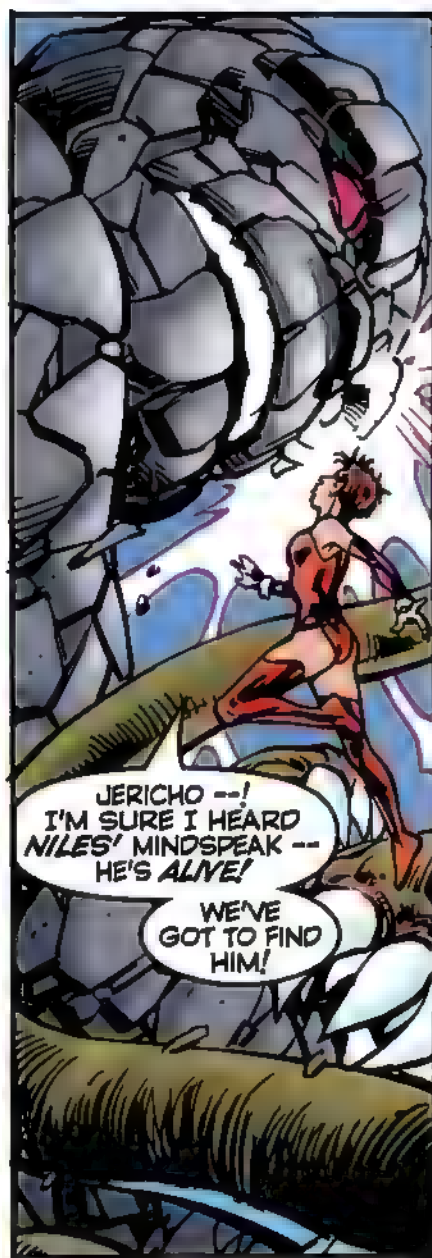
-- TRYING
FOR ANOTHER
TYPE OF BROOD,
PIOTYR?



JANET!
WHERE ARE
YOU?

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

BY THE
COLLECTED
ONES! I FORGOT
AND USED MY
TELEPATHY!



JERICO --!
I'M SURE I HEARD
NILES' MINDSPEAK --
HE'S ALIVE!

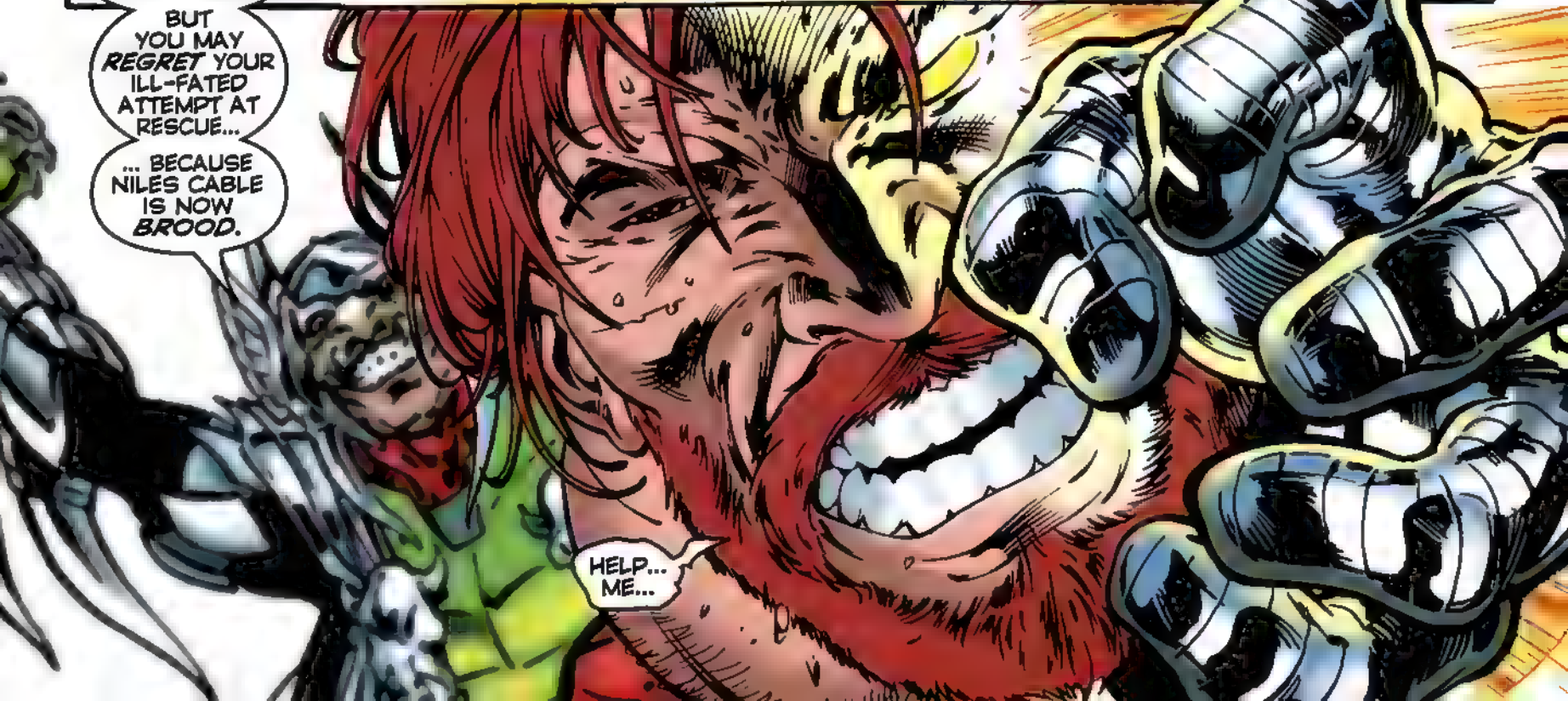
WE'VE
GOT TO FIND
HIM!



I ASSURE
YOU, FINDING
NILES WON'T BE
A PROBLEM.

BUT
YOU MAY
REGRET YOUR
ILL-FATED
ATTEMPT AT
RESCUE...

... BECAUSE
NILES CABLE
IS NOW
BROOD.



HELP...
ME...



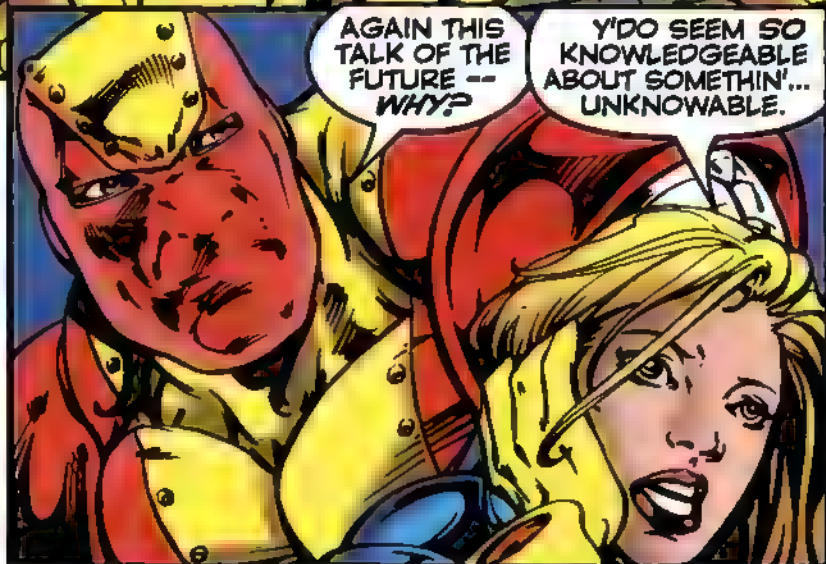
BROTHER BROOD MUST BE THE LIKHO, THE EVIL ONE, HIMSELF, TO HAVE DEFEATED NILES!

HE'S NOT DAID YET, BUT OH, M'LORD, WHAT CAN WE DO?

WE CAIN'T HARM THE CHIEF!

WE MUST!

HUSK, USE YOUR DIAL! WE HAVE TO DEFEAT HIM -- THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT!



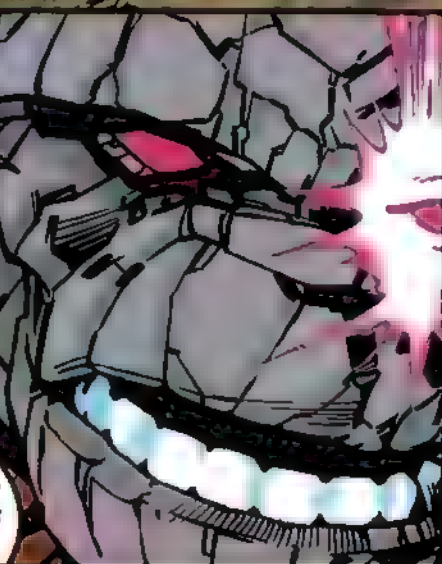
AGAIN THIS TALK OF THE FUTURE -- WHY?

Y'DO SEEM SO KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SOMETHIN'... UNKNOWNABLE.

I KNOW THAT IF WE ALLOW BROTHER BROOD TO SUCCEED, HE WILL USE NILES TO SPEARHEAD THE TAKEOVER OF EARTH BY THE BROOD.

I KNOW THAT THE BROOD WILL THEN BE OVERTHROWN BY HUMANS WHO WILL NEVER FORGIVE OUR KIND.

AND I KNOW THAT WE WILL BE FORCED INTO CAVES AND HUNTED LIKE BEASTS -- ALL BECAUSE OF THAT MAN!



WHAT AMAZING PRESCIENCE, STONE ONE!

THE BROOD WILL CERTAINLY INHERIT THE EARTH, AND WE WILL USE EVERY LIVING MUTANT TO DO SO!



BECAUSE WHEN MUTANT AND BROOD JOIN --



-- BOTH ARE MADE MORE POWERFUL!

SO JOIN WITH US -- OR DIE!

SO SPEAKS THE BROOD QUEEN!



SOUNDS LIKE WE DIE EITHER WAY.

ME, I OPT TO GO DOWN AS MYSELF, NOT AS SOME MAJOR-LEAGUE UGLY!... IF THAT'S AN OPTION...



REALLY HATE
TO DO THIS,
JANET...

BUT WE BOTH
KNOW THERE'S
NO FREEING NILES
NOW EXCEPT
BY DEATH!

FORGIVE
ME, NILES!

I DON'T NEED
YOUR FORGIVENESS.

I NEED
YOU ALL TO
LEAVE, NOW,
BEFORE --

-- I --

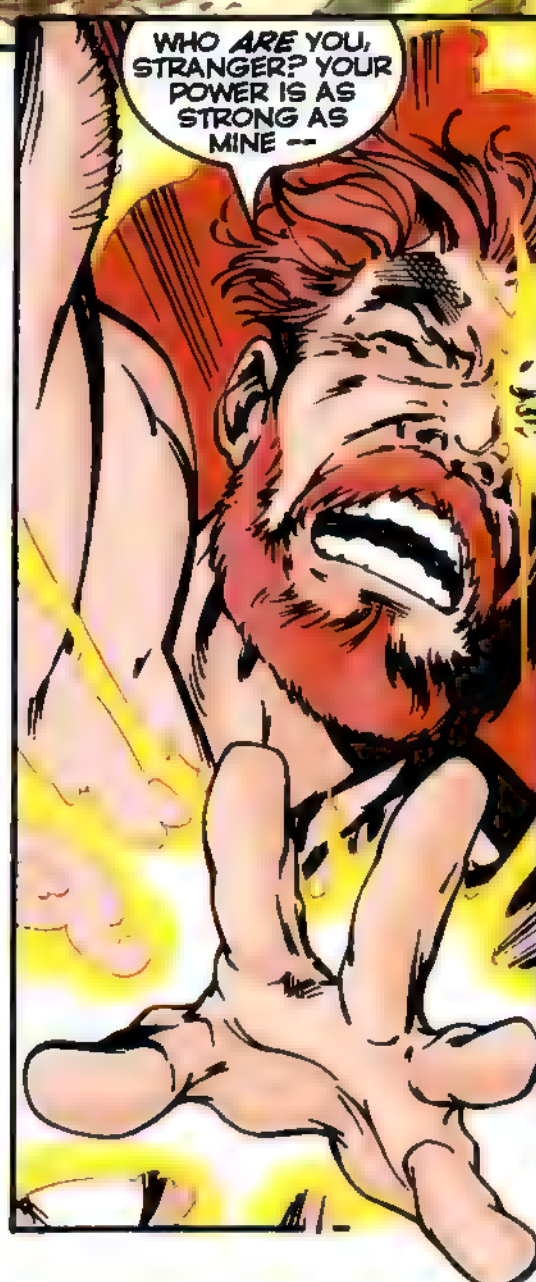
-- TAKE
YOU DOWN,
HUMANS!

WOOMP

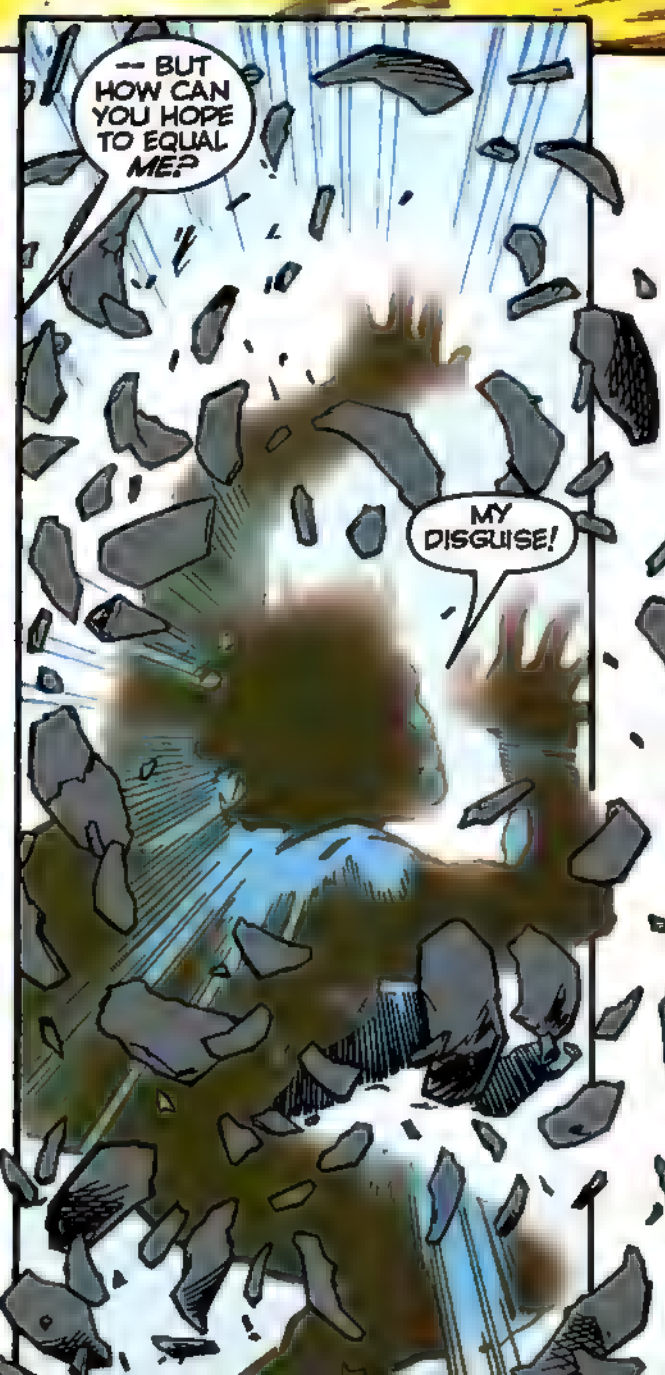


NO! I WON'T LET YOU
KILL THE DREAM -- THE
X-PATROL WILL NOT
BE DESTROYED
THIS WAY!

NO
MATTER
WHAT THE
SACRIFICE, I
WON'T LET MY
OWN FUTURE
COME TO
PASS!



WHO ARE YOU,
STRANGER? YOUR
POWER IS AS
STRONG AS
MINE --



-- BUT
HOW CAN
YOU HOPE
TO EQUAL
ME?

MY
DISGUISE!



I CAN
EQUAL YOU
BECAUSE I
AM YOU!

NOW THAT THE
ROCKS OF "JERICHO"
HAVE *FALLEN*, LET ME
INTRODUCE MYSELF --
I AM NILES
DAYSPRING...

NO
WONDER
I TRUSTED
HIM... HE'S A
YOUNGER
YOU!

... AND
I'VE COME
TO SAVE THE
FUTURE!

YOU
ARE INDEED
ME...



GOOD.
THEN
YOU... CAN
TAKE MY
PLACE.

GO,
SOUL-
SELF...

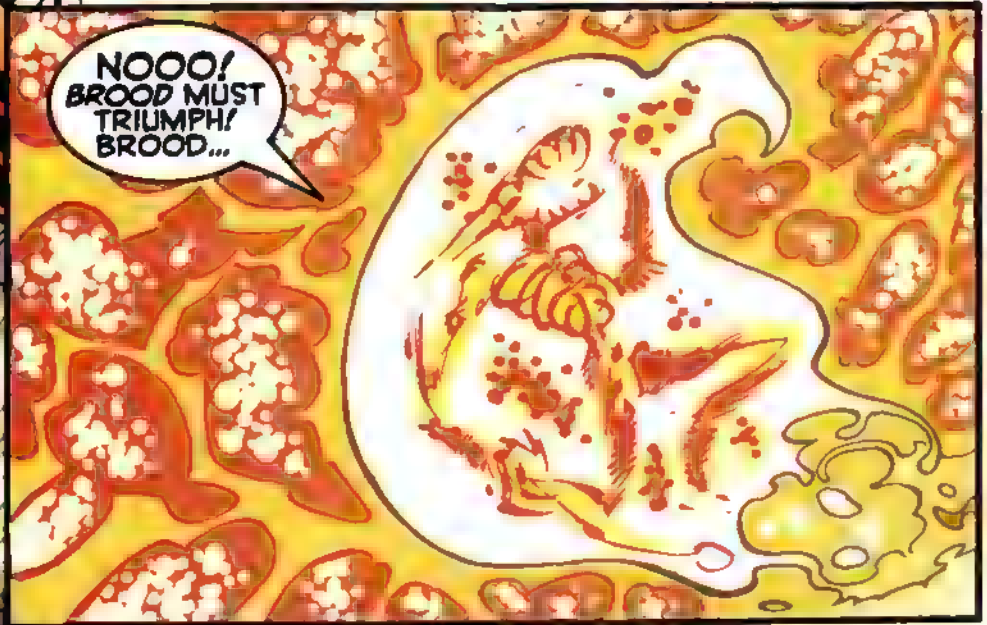
NILES!



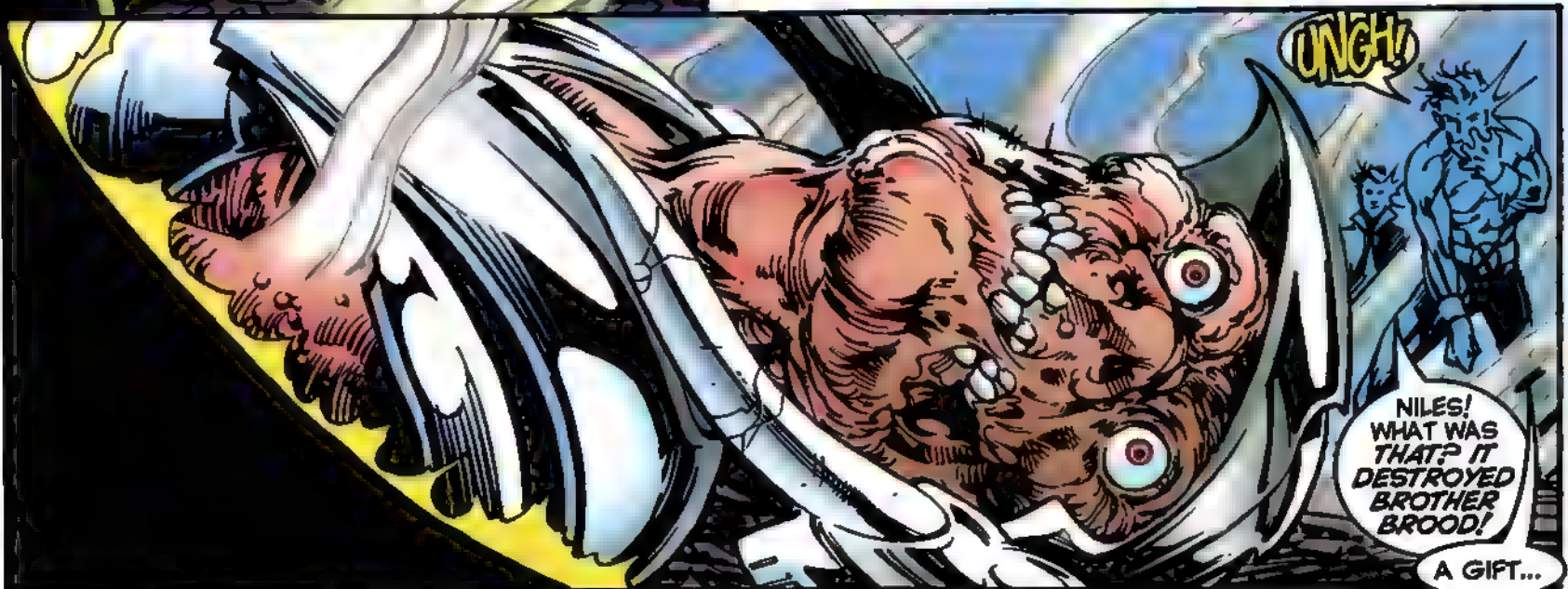
PER'APS
A NEW
ME CAN
HELP...



... AND
HEAL BROTHER
BROOD.



NOOO!
BROOD MUST
TRIUMPH!
BROOD...



UNCH!

NILES!
WHAT WAS
THAT? IT
DESTROYED
BROTHER
BROOD!

A GIFT...

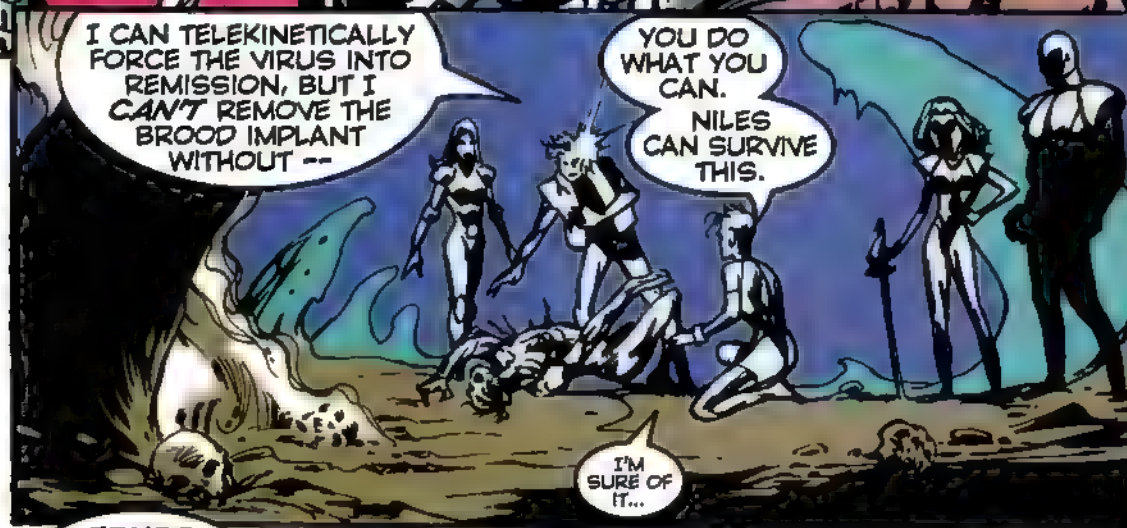


... PROTECTION FROM THE DEADLY TECHNO-VIRUS LOCKED INSIDE ME.

GOODBYE, JANET.

I LOVE YOU 001011011

FIGHT IT, NILES!

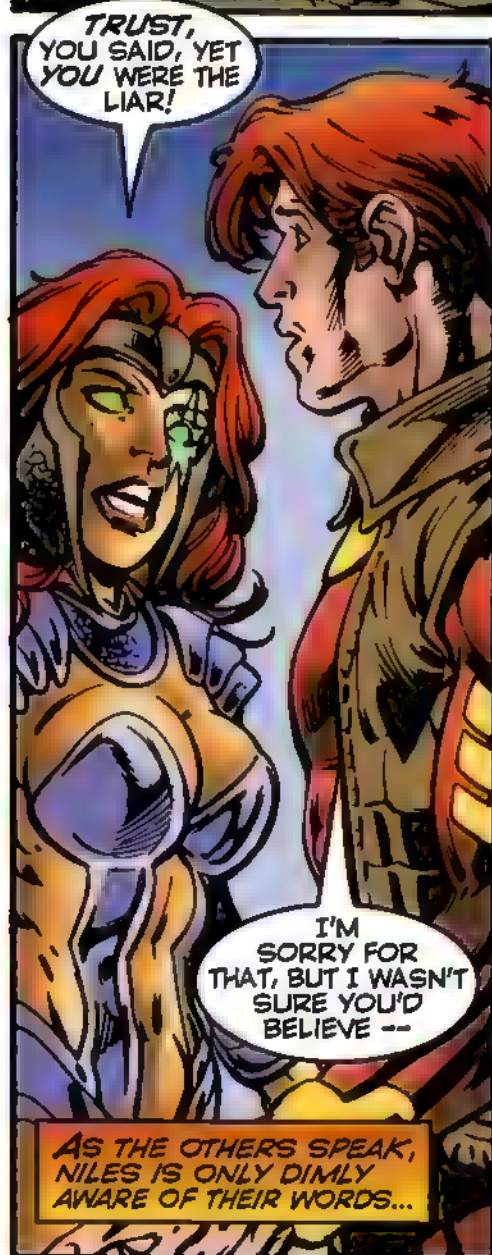


I CAN TELEKINETICALLY FORCE THE VIRUS INTO REMISSION, BUT I CAN'T REMOVE THE BROOD IMPLANT WITHOUT --

YOU DO WHAT YOU CAN. NILES CAN SURVIVE THIS.

I'M SURE OF IT...

THEN SHE IS GONE, AND HE KNOWS IT IS FOR THE LAST TIME...



TRUST, YOU SAID, YET YOU WERE THE LIAR!

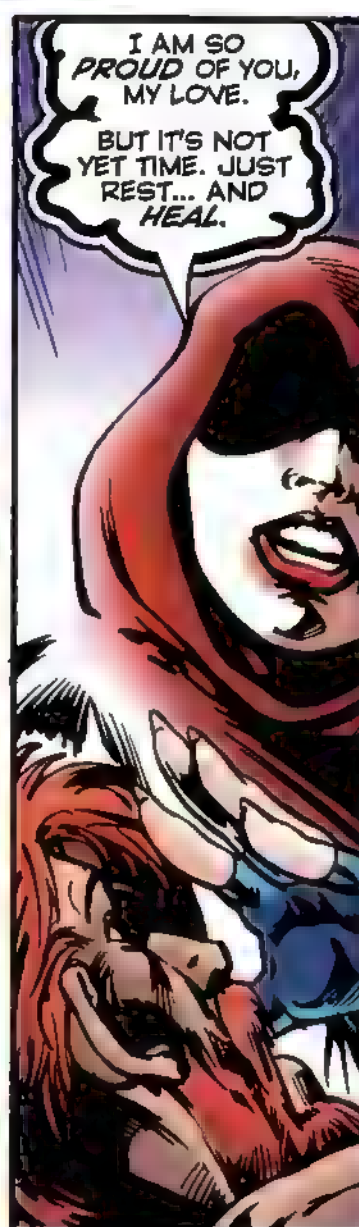
I'M SORRY FOR THAT, BUT I WASN'T SURE YOU'D BELIEVE --

AS THE OTHERS SPEAK, NILES IS ONLY DIMLY AWARE OF THEIR WORDS...



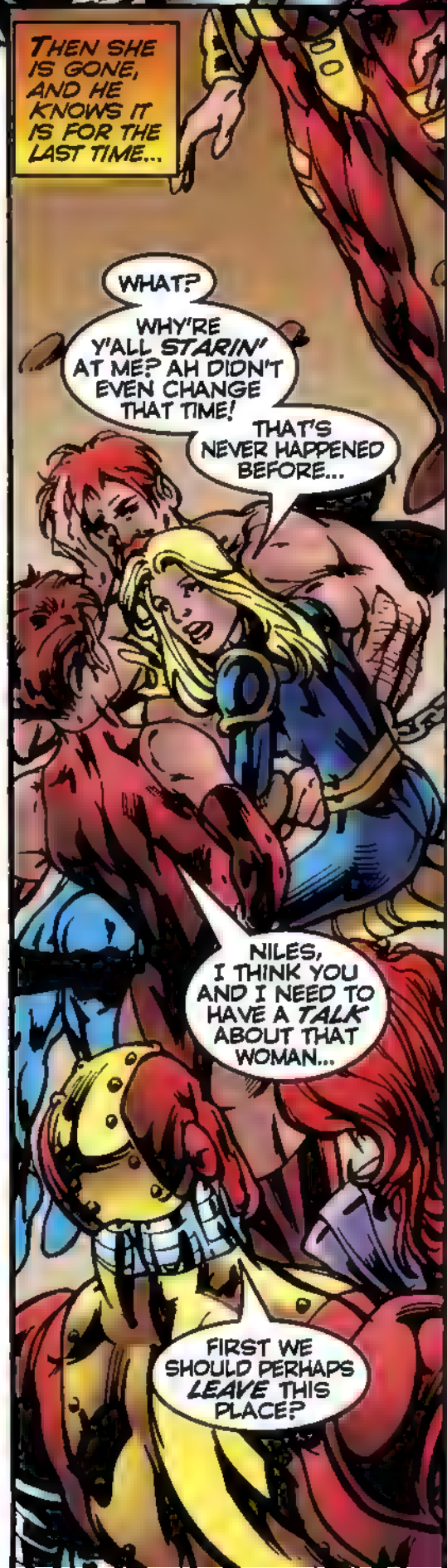
... AS HE FEELS HER TOUCH AGAIN.

RAVEN... SHALL I GO?



I AM SO PROUD OF YOU, MY LOVE.

BUT IT'S NOT YET TIME. JUST REST... AND HEAL.



WHAT?

WHY'RE Y'ALL STARIN' AT ME? AH DIDN'T EVEN CHANGE THAT TIME!

THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE...

NILES, I THINK YOU AND I NEED TO HAVE A TALK ABOUT THAT WOMAN...

FIRST WE SHOULD PERHAPS LEAVE THIS PLACE?



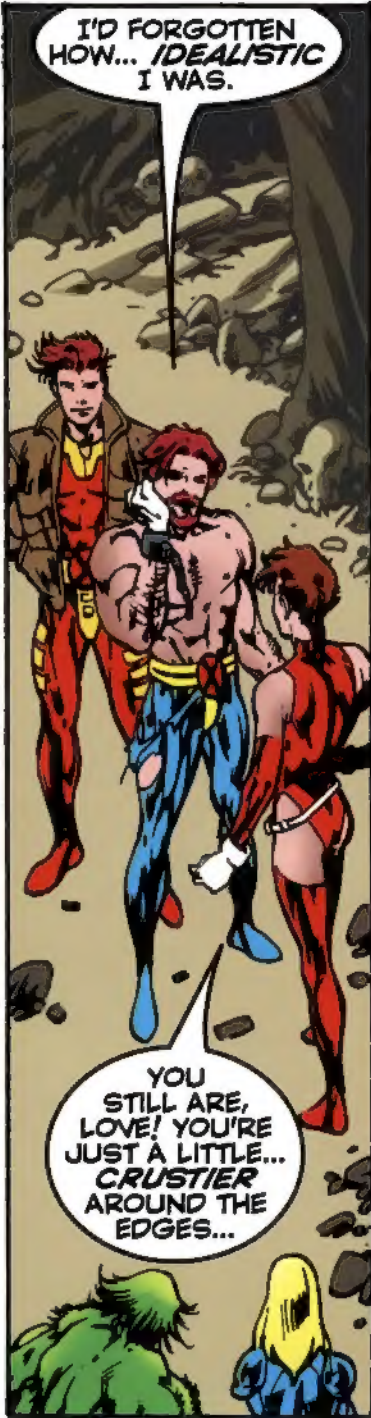
WE ARE STILL SURROUNDED BY THESE CREATURES...

...ALTHOUGH THE FIGHT SEEMS TO HAVE FLED THEM WITH THE DEATH OF THEIR QUEEN... Er... KING?



GOOD! YOU'RE ALL HEALED! NOW YOU CAN LEAD MUTANTKIND INTO A NEW AND BETTER FUTURE SO MINE... YOURS... OURS... WILL NEVER COME TO BE!

GYAHK! KOF!



I'D FORGOTTEN HOW... IDEALISTIC I WAS.

YOU STILL ARE, LOVE! YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE... CRUSTIER AROUND THE EDGES...

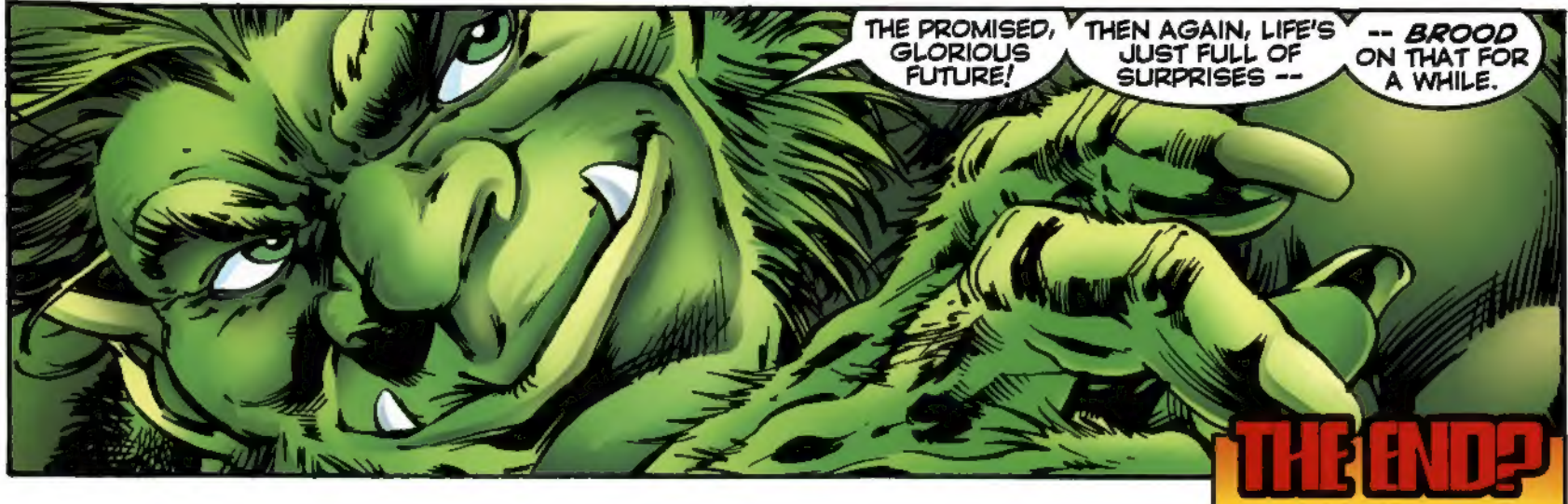


SO LET'S PUT THOSE IDEALS TO WORK! WHILE LIFE STILL SHINES INSIDE US, WE WILL GO ON!

WITH THE HELP OF THIS EXUBERANT YOUNG -- THIS EX-MAN, LET'S GO MAKE A GLORIOUS FUTURE!

WITH THE QUEEN DEAD AND THE NEW QUEEN INSIDE ME DESTROYED, THE CURSE OF BROTHER BLOOD IS FINALLY OVER!

TO THE FUTURE, X-PATROL!



THE PROMISED, GLORIOUS FUTURE!

THEN AGAIN, LIFE'S JUST FULL OF SURPRISES --

-- BROOD ON THAT FOR A WHILE.

THE END?

AMALGAM NATION

CARWALD'S CORNERBOX

Fun! That's the name of the game. Seems like everywhere you turn these days, there's somebody spoutin' off about the deficit of "fun" in his funnybooks.

To which we say, "Balderdash!"

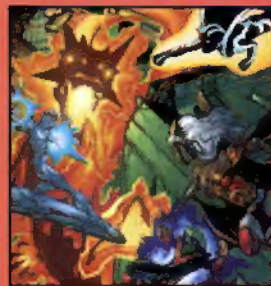
Now, there's no denyin' that the comic-book biz is just that—a business. And there are times when the profit-and-loss side of the equation seems to overshadow everything else, particularly with the advent of the faster-than-thought communication of the World Wide Web. (Speaking of which, have you gotten an eyeful of our fully-functional Amalgam Webrite yet? Four out of five dentists recommend it...and the fifth doesn't own a computer!)

But the bottom line is that nobody joins the wacky workaday world of producing four-color fantasies with the intention of getting rich. We do this because we love comics, the same as you do. There's no better place to work than in the comic biz. And the reason is, it's fun.

So have some fun today, Amalgamen and Amalgametter. We are.

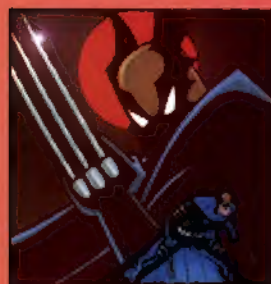
And remember, we remain ever dedicated to bringing you the finest in illustrated picto-literature! Because we know you demand no less! Accelerate!

— M.M.CARWALD

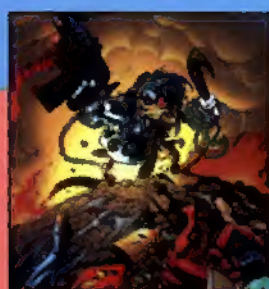


JLX UNLEASHED #1: Decimated by the Armageddon Agenda, the JLX lies at the mercy of the Hellfire League of Injustice when they summon the brimstone-born Fin Fang Flame! By Christopher "Maxi" Priest, Oscar "Jumping" Jimenez and Hanibal "The Cannibal" Rodriguez.

GENERATION HEX #1: Ride back into the Wild West days of the Amalgam Universe and see how disfigured renegade Jono Hex assembled the world's first band of metamutant gunslingers: Skinhunter, Madame Banshee, and the mysterious Retribution — all out for vengeance against a town called Humanity. By "Peerless" Peter Milligan, "Madam, I'm" Adam Pollina and Mark "More, More, More" Morales.

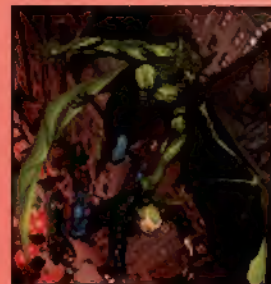


THE DARK CLAW ADVENTURES #1: Based on the hit TV show *Dark Claw: The Animated Series*! A deadly assassin called Lady Talia is loose in New Gotham! And she's after the man who killed her father, Ra's A-Pocalypse — namely, Logan! By Ty "The Guy" Templeton and "Rambunctious" Rick Burchett.



LOBO THE DUCK #1: The Main Mallard is after the mastermind responsible for the destruction of Manhattan and the deaths of the greatest Amalgam heroes! And not even his faithful girlfriend Bevarlene can ease the mighty duck's troubled mind — especially when the Lunatik-Bug bounces into the act. By Alan "The Anarchist" Grant, "Voracious" Val Semeiks, and Ray "Railroad" Kryssing.

BAT-THING #1: When a scientist mutates into a creature part human and part bat, the world can only call him — Bat-Thing! Human no longer, the hideous being seeks revenge on the motorcycle gang responsible for his cursed existence! By "Laughin'" Larry Hama, Rodolfo "Joe" Damaggio, and Bill "Sink-or-swim" Sienkiewicz.



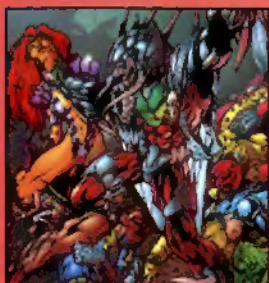
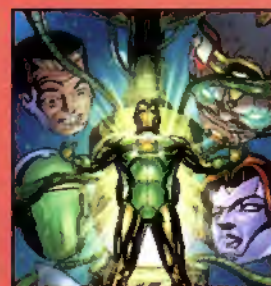
SUPER-SOLDIER: MAN OF WAR #1: Return to the Golden Age of Amalgam as the world's greatest human fighting machine joins forces with Sgt. Rock and his Howling Commandos! But can even their combined might overcome the maniacal Major Zemo's deadly War Wheel? Guest starring the All-Star Winners Society! By "Malevolent" Mark Waid, "Dauntless" Dave Gibbons, and Jimmy "Jimmy" Palmiotti.

CHALLENGERS OF THE FANTASTIC #1: Sue "Ace" Storm: fearless agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.! Reed "Prof" Richards: dynamic science genius! Johnny "Red" Storm: daredevil youth! Ben "Rocky" Grimm: two-fisted U.S. senator! They're four frankly fearless people who seek out and defy mind-blowing menaces in mysterious places. But can even they stand against the coming of Galactiac? By Karl "Don't Call Me Barbara" Kesel, "Titanic" Tom Grummett, and "Anxious" Al Vey.



THORION OF THE NEW ASGODS #1: Between the realms of New Asgard and Apokolips, Thorion battles his hated brother Lok D'Saad, while the fate of the galaxy itself hangs in the balance! But Lok has a secret weapon: the all-powerful MOTHER LOBE. And waiting in the shadows: Thanosoid! By "Kinetic" Keith Giffen and "Jumpin'" John Romita, Jr.

IRON LANTERN #1: Empowered by OA, the Living Planet, Hal Stark wears the life-sustaining armor of Iron Lantern! But can the Armored Emerald Gladiator save Stark Aircraft from the colossal Great White, the hatred of Madame Sapphire, and the world-shattering power of Mandarinestro? By "Curt" Kurt Busiek, "Tall" Paul Smith, and Al "The Pal" Williamson.



THE EXCITING X-PATROL #1: Niles Cable, Elastigirl, Shatterstarfire, Ferro Man, Beastling, and Dial H.U.S.K.! They're back — and they must face Brother Brood in a battle to the death! And if they survive — can they endure the trials of the Brood Pit? By Barbara "Don't Call Me Karl" Kesel and "Bouncin'" Bryan Hitch.

SPIDER-BOY TEAM-UP #1: Spider-Boy is saved from certain doom by another spider-powered teen who could be Spider-Boy 2099! Using the Time Cube, the heroic duo travel back to the future to meet the Legion of Galactic Guardians. By Karl "Now I'm Confused" Kesel, Roger "Ramjet" Stern, Jo "The Padron" Ladronn, and "Say It Ain't So" Vlesco.



MAGNETIC MEN FEATURING MAGNETO #1: Just as the refurbished Magnetic Men attempt to join human society, they must go up against the lethal Sinister Society and a slew of new evil robots. By Tom "Terrific" Peyer, "Bodacious" Barry Kitson and "Dancin'" Dan Panosian.

BONUS
AMALGAM PINUP:
**BROTHER
BROOD**



MINUTEmen

Syl3nt Bob

